

Message Text

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ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
-----102308 181723Z /42
O 181702Z JUL 77 ZFF 6
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5830

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 20782

NODIS

FOR AMBASSADOR SMITH FROM AMBASSADOR HARTMAN

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3
TAGS: TECH, MNUC, PARM, FR, US
SUBJECT: NON-PROLIFERATION EXPERTS MEETING

REF: (A) STATE 165853; (B) STATE 165855

1. ON JULY 18 I SAW GIRAUD TO CONVEY TO HIM YOUR REACTIONS TO THE INFORMAL PAPER WHICH HE GAVE YOU ON JULY 7. I LEFT WITH HIM A COPY OF MY TALKING POINTS CONTAINING THE ESSENCE OF PARAS 2-5 OF REF A. I ALSO GAVE HIM THE TEXT OF THE SUGGESTED US REVISION TO HIS PAPER CONTAINED IN REF B.

2. I ASKED GIRAUD WHAT WAS THE STATUS OF HIS PAPER WITHIN THE GOF; WHETHER WE WERE IN A POSITION TO DISCUSS IT WITH THE QUAI OR OTHERS, AND WHETHER HE HAD PASSED COPIES TO ANY OTHER COUNTRIES INVOLVED IN THE EXPERTS STUDY. GIRAUD INITIALLY PRETENDED NOT TO KNOW WHAT PAPER I WAS TALKING ABOUT. AFTER A COUPLE OF QUESTIONS HE CAME TO THE POINT AND STATED THAT THE PAPER IS PERSONAL RATHER THAN OFFICIAL. HE HAS PROVIDED COPIES TO THE QUAI AND TO SOME OTHER
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(UNNAMED) GOVERNMENTS, BUT STRONGLY PREFERS THAT WE DISCUSS IT ONLY WITH HIM.

3. NOTING THAT THE CROSS REFERENCES IN GIRAUD'S PAPER SEEMED TO LINK IT WITH THE INTRODUCTORY REPORT TO GOVERNMENTS, I ASKED HIM WHAT WAS THE CONNECTION. GIRAUD RESPONDED THAT IT WAS A PERSONAL ATTEMPT TO

PROVIDE A STARTING POINT FOR THE EXPERTS MEETING NEXT WEEK. HE SAID THAT HIS PAPER COULD COMPLEMENT THE INTRODUCTORY REPORT. REFERRING TO THE AGENDA FOR THE NEXT MEETING CIRCULATED BY THE QUAI, GIRAUD SAID THAT AFTER EACH DELEGATION HAS STATED ITS VIEWS, ONE MAY PROPOSE THAT A DRAFT COULD BE PREPARED TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE DIVERSE VIEWS. AT THAT POINT A DRAFT SYNTHESIS (COMMENT: PRESUMABLY BASED ON THE GIRAUD PAPER END COMMENT) WOULD BE PREPARED. THIS WOULD THEN BE DISCUSSED AS THE "PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS" OF THE POSITIONS OF THE DIFFERENT PARTICIPANTS.

4. REITERATING THAT THE PAPER WAS PERSONAL AND THAT HE WANTED TO PRESERVE THE CHANNEL OF COMMENTS ON IT ONLY BETWEEN HIM AND AMBASSADOR SMITH, GIRAUD SAID HE WOULD REVIEW THE US COMMENTS AND PERHAPS BE IN TOUCH PRIOR TO THE EXPERTS MEETING. I POINTED OUT THAT THE US COMMENTS WERE AN ATTEMPT TO PRESENT IN A MORE BALANCED WAY THE DIVERSE VIEWS PRESENTED IN THE GIRAUD DRAFT.

5. GIRAUD THEN COMMENTED AT SOME LENGTH ON HIS INTERPRETATION OF THE TWO DIFFERENT POSITIONS THAT ARE FOUND AMONG THE NATIONS PARTICIPATING IN INFCE. HE STATED THAT MOST OF THE COUNTRIES BELIEVE THE BEST WAY TO CONTROL PROLIFERATION IS TO MASTER THE SECRET

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PLUTONIUM CYCLE WITH CONTROLS WHEREAS THE US AND CANADA WISH TO BAN THE PLUTONIUM CYCLE AND TRY SOMETHING ELSE. GIRAUD SAID IT SHOULD BE EASY TO DETERMINE THE AREAS ON WHICH ALL PARTIES ALREADY AGREE: ENHANCED SAFEGUARDS, MORE ENRICHMENT CAPACITY, ETC. HOWEVER, THE EXPERTS WILL HAVE TO SPELL OUT SEPARATE POSITIONS ON THE PLUTONIUM CYCLE. I ASKED GIRAUD IF HE WOULD BE PREPARED TO REFER TO THE VIEWS IN HIS PAPER AS "PRESENT VIEWS" SUBJECT TO THE OUTCOME OF THE STUDY. GIRAUD SAID HE THOUGHT THAT WE COULD AGREE ON THAT AND THAT THE "PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS" WILL SHED MORE LIGHT ON THOSE QUESTIONS ON WHICH WE DISAGREE. FOLLOWING PREPARATION OF THE "PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS," PRESIDENT GISCARD WILL THEN MAKE A DECISION ON WHETHER FRANCE WILL PARTICIPATE IN INFCE.

6. GIRAUD SAID THAT IF THERE IS ANY "BLACKMAILING" ON URANIUM SUPPLY OR "AN AWKWARD POSITION" ON

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W
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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5831

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MB-10S, THEN FRANCE WILL NOT FOLLOW-UP ON INFCE.
HE CONTINUED THAT ALL MUST AGREE THAT EACH WILL NOT
IMPOSE HIS OWN OPINIONS ON THE OTHERS.

7. GIRAUD CONTINUED THAT THE OBJECT OF THE HEADS
OF GOVERNMENT IN LONDON WAS BOTH TO HELP DEVELOP
NUCLEAR ENERGY AND TO PREVENT PROLIFERATION. THE
TWO GO TOGETHER. HE SAID THAT ANYTHING THAT IS DONE
WITH THE NORMAL COURSE OF ACTION ON NUCLEAR ENERGY
IS PREJUDICIAL TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF NUCLEAR ENERGY.
THUS, IN REFERENCE TO JAPAN, IF THEY ARE CONVINCED
THAT MB-10S WILL NOT BE ISSUED, THIS IS AN OBVIOUS
INTERFERENCE WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF NUCLEAR ENERGY.

8. I NOTED THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THAT THE CURRENT
US POSITION WILL TAKE CARE FOR THE SHORT TERM OF THE
LA HAGUE REPROCESSING PLANT. GIRAUD RESPONDED THAT
"THAT IS NOT US BUSINESS." UP-3 WILL BE BUILT
ANYWAY. THE CURVE OF EXPANSION AT LA HAGUE IS NOT
TIED TO EXPORT POTENTIAL BUT RATHER TO FRENCH
DOMESTIC NEEDS. THEREFORE, FRANCE WILL NEED THE
CAPACITY OF UP-3 AT THE SAME TIME THAT FOREIGN
SUPPLIES OF IRRADIATED FUEL WOULD REACH A LEVEL TO
REQUIRE THE ADDED CAPACITY. GIRAUD SAID THAT HE
THOUGHT THE US MISUNDERSTOOD THIS POINT. HE

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CONTINUED THAT SINCE THE US WILL NOT BE ABLE TO TAKE THE STEP OF CUTTING OFF ELECTRICITY IN OTHER COUNTRIES, THE US WILL BE OBLIGED TO ISSUE MB-10S "IN EXCESS" OF THE LA HAGUE CAPACITY. GIRAUD WENT ON TO DESCRIBE THE PRESENT US POSITION OF ISSUING MB-10S ONLY FOR THE CAPACITY OF THE EXISTING FACILITY BUT NOT FOR UP-3 AS "WRONG AND USELESS." COMMENT: I WOULD APPRECIATE ANY TALKING POINTS YOU MIGHT WISH ME TO MAKE TO REBUT HIS STATEMENTS ON THE LA HAGUE CAPACITY. END COMMENT.

9. IN CONCLUSION GIRAUD SAID THAT IF THE PARTIES AGREE THAT DURING THE INFCE NOTHING IS DONE TO IMPOSE CONDITIONS ON ANY PARTICIPANT, THEN IT IS HIS IMPRESSION THAT PRESIDENT GISCARD WILL APPROVE PARTICIPATION. HE NOTED THAT HE HIMSELF PLANS TO LEAD FRENCH PARTICIPATION AT THE EXPERTS GROUP NEXT WEEK. COMMENT: I WOULD APPRECIATE ADVICE SOONEST AS TO COMPOSITION OF US DELEGATION.

10. OVERALL COMMENT: WHILE PLEASANT IN TONE AND STYLE, GIRAUD LEFT LITTLE DOUBT THAT HE PLANS TO TAKE A VERY HARD LINE IN THE EXPERTS MEETINGS NEXT WEEK. THE KEY STICKING POINT IS WHETHER OR NOT THE FRENCH WILL INTERPRET OUR (OR CANADIAN) POSITIONS AS IMPOSING CONDITIONS ON THEM DURING THE LIFE OF THE STUDY. IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT GIRAUD IS IN A POSITION TO RECOMMEND TO GISCARD THE TERMS UNDER WHICH FRANCE WILL PARTICIPATE. GIRAUD DID NOT SAY WHETHER HE WILL HAVE COMMENTS ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO HIS PAPER. IF HE DOES I WILL RELAY THEM TO YOU IMMEDIATELY.

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X3
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
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Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: 77 STATE 165853, 77 STATE 165855
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1829604
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NON-PROLIFERATION EXPERTS MEETING
TAGS: TECH, TNGD, MNUC, PARM, FR, US, XX
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a28a1d68-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009